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CVM eNews - October 2018

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CVM eNews <cornellvet@cornell.edu>

Today, 1:00 PM

Susanne K. Whitaker



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October 2018



Message from the Dean

On Tuesday, October 30, we will hold the college's annual State of the College address. Please join me for an update on progress the college has made in its strategic plan and our priorities for the next year. Remember to bring your reusable items to enjoy the refreshments.

I'd like to extend a thank-you to Dr. Avery August, who visited us last month to share his life story as part of our Many Voices, One College diversity and inclusion series. I was pleased to see the high turnout for both Dr. August's event as well as our Diversity

Your insightful questions at both events led to fruitful discussion.

Earlier this month, the college hosted a record number of attendees for the Fall 2018 New York State Veterinary Conference. Around 850 people participated, including 150 college community members. Thank you to Dr. Jodi Korich and her team, as well as the many others involved, whose hard work resulted in a seamless event that provided high quality continuing education for veterinary professionals. The annual DeeDee Arrison Concert for the Animals was another highlight of the weekend. Thanks to Clement and Karen Arrison for continuing to bring world-class musicians to the college.

I look forward to seeing you at the State of the College presentation later this month.

Sincerely,

Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94
Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine

Latest News



[Fall veterinary conference promotes educational verve](#)



[Fire brings out the best in Cornell and the community](#)

October Trivia

Look out for the answer to this trivia question in November's eNews!

Before moving to its current location in 1957, where were CVM's original facilities located?

Libe Slope

Select

September's trivia question: The Baker Institute for Animal Health was founded in 1950. What was its original name?

Answer: The Veterinary Virus Research Institute. Under the leadership of its founding director - James A. Baker, Ph.D. '38, D.V.M. '40 - the institute made major contributions in its first two decades to the control of diseases of livestock, especially bovine and swine diseases.

Community Notes

Share your views and ideas on how we can strengthen our culture of diversity

Many Voices, One College

A monthly diversity and inclusion dialogue series

This month's topic:

Explore the layers of your Identity

facilitated by Makenzie Peterson



Friday, October 26th

Noon to 1pm in the green room (S2-223) adjacent to the Café
Food will be provided



Unconscious Bias

with Cornell F. Woodson

November 2nd

Noon in Classroom 7 (S1-226)

Food will be provided

Woodson serves as the Diversity and Inclusion Programs Lead. He believes that authentic dialogue, reflection on our identities, an understanding of our history, and direct and consistent action are key to creating a more inclusive environment.

[Staff member Dionne Henderson's legacy of kindness and inclusion inspires new award](#)

[CVM welcomes City University provost and dean](#)

Staff Conversations: What helps or hinders your sense of connectedness at Cornell? Join us for this important opportunity for staff to talk directly with senior administration and the Employee Assembly in an informal setting. The next session is **Wednesday, October 24** at 9 a.m. in G10 Biotech. [See the full list of sessions and RSVP online.](#)

SAVMA Symposium: For the first time since 1981, CVM has won the bid to host the national SAVMA Symposium in 2020. The symposium brings together students from around the world to network as future colleagues and gain experience outside the typical curriculum. Students here at Cornell will organize the event and planning is already underway. Mark your calendars for **March 14-16, 2020** as SAVMA Symposium comes back to Cornell.

ezyVet is coming to CUHA on Tuesday, October 23! Visit the [ezyVet training blog](#) for information on the system that will replace UVIS, and contact the Project Team at cuhaemrproject@cornell.edu with any questions.

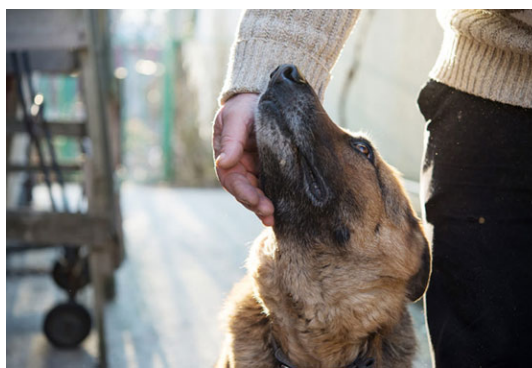
Pedal for Pets: On Saturday, October 20, SCAVMA is hosting a day of biking to support the Patient Assistance Fund. You can join the bikers on their ride, sponsor a rider, donate a prize or help sponsor the event. [Learn more at their Facebook event page.](#)

[Hellos, goodbyes and HR update](#)

CVM in the News



[3-D printed implant gives Patches the Daschund a new skull](#)



[15 surprising benefits of adopting a shelter dog](#)

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leading role in the treatment in February.

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Have Ideas to Share?

Let us know what you want to see in the Community Notes portion of eNews. Contribute events and articles which might be of interest to your colleagues and the CVM community at large.

Send in your submission by 11/16/18 to cornellvet@cornell.edu. Make sure to put eNews in the subject line so that your item can be considered for the next issue.



Cornell University | Cornell University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Ithaca, NY 14853

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Fall veterinary conference promotes educational verve

🐾 Thursday, October 11, 2018 - 11:02am



The Fall New York State Veterinary Conference draws veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across the Northeast. Nearly 850 people attended this year, a record number that includes approximately 150 students and other members of the CVM community. Photo by the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Veterinary professionals at every stage in their career converged on Ithaca this weekend for the Fall 2018 New York State Veterinary Conference (NYS-VC). The three-day continuing education event featured traditional lectures as well as new learning formats designed to optimize learning. Interactive case studies, games for learning and educational technology labs helped attendees practice applying what they learned in the new state-of-the-art facilities at the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM).

NYS-VC draws veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across the Northeast. Nearly 850 people attended this year, a record number that includes approximately 150 students and other members of the CVM community.

“Attendees really liked our new interactive, applied learning sessions,” said Jodi Korich, D.V.M. ’97, associate dean for education. “Moving forward, we will develop CE [continuing education] programs that offer greater levels of customized learning.”

Applied learning is a component of President Martha Pollack’s educational verve initiative for Cornell. “This is what we must aspire to in education: a vitality that leads our students to a lifetime of discovery, a passion for ideas and a commitment to seeking truth,” said Pollack during her summer 2017 inauguration ceremony. NYS-VC aspired to that and more this weekend, with several different tracks attendees could choose from, including companion animal, equine, bovine, small ruminant, camelid and veterinary technician tracks.

New this year was a track on backyard poultry, a rising interest among owners who want to install chicken coops and raise their own farm-fresh eggs. Jarra Jagne, D.V.M. ’90, senior extension associate, and Dr. Elizabeth Buckles, associate clinical professor, led attendees through backyard chicken treatments, vaccinations and diagnostic approaches. They followed their lectures with hands-on labs featuring live chickens so attendees could practice techniques to safely examine and restrain them.

The conference is co-sponsored by CVM and the New York State Veterinary Medical Society (NYSVMS). Each year, NYS-VC holds a celebration dinner to honor veterinary professionals with prestigious awards. This year’s dinner was held at the Lab of Ornithology, where Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. ’94, the Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine, recognized the recipients for “advancing the veterinary profession, each in their own unique way.” This year’s award recipients included:

- Stephanie West, D.V.M. ’90: Outstanding Service to Veterinary Medicine
- Ian Wetherly ’61, D.V.M. ’62: Distinguished Life Service Award
- Dr. Bill Miller and Julia Miller, D.V.M. ’12: Joint winners of the Outstanding Speaker Award
- Bruce Haynes, D.V.M. ’52: Daniel Elmer Salmon Award for Distinguished Alumni Service


This year's conference included networking events for everyone, from early career veterinarians to seasoned practitioners and licensed veterinary technicians. There were even events for the animals themselves, like the annual DeeDee Arrison Concert for the Animals. The concert featured internationally-acclaimed violinists and members of the Stradivari Society Tim Fain and Francisco Fullana, accompanied by Grammy-nominated pianist Robert Koenig. The concert, open to people and animals, has been a regular feature at the college since 2009. It is sponsored by Clement and Karen Arrison in honor of their dog who was treated for bone cancer at the Cornell University Hospital for Animals.

The weekend also included an official dedication ceremony for the new Small Animal Community Practice, which opened to patients this summer. Warnick and Dr. Meg Thompson, associate dean of hospital operations and corporate relations, thanked everyone for their support for the facility, whose completion marked the end of the class expansion project. Dr. William Hornbuckle, the Rudolph J. and Katherine L. Steffen Professor of Veterinary Medicine emeritus, returned to the college to offer attendees in the crowded atrium a brief history of the community practice service, from its origins in the 1980s and its many moves to the evolving role of students and veterinary technicians.

Said Hornbuckle, "I'd like to congratulate Dr. Thompson, Dean Warnick and the rest of the administration who supported the building of this clinic, and I wish my associates – new and old – good luck in the future ahead."

By Melanie Greaver Cordova

Thursday, October 11, 2018 - 10:54am

 Image



NYS-VC 2018

NYS-VC 2018



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Fire brings out the best in Cornell and the community

🐾 Tuesday, October 9, 2018 - 3:31pm

On Aug. 9, 2018, wires caught fire in the attic at Veterinary Care of Ithaca on West Court Street, a practice owned by Jennifer Biasillo, Cornell D.V.M. '12. Her staff brought the patients to safety but the fire damaged structural trusses, the electrical and HVAC systems, the treatment space and their server, shuttering the business for repair and renovation.

The practice's five veterinarians and 12 staff members have over 5,000 active patients. They're big on customer service and reducing stress during visits; that includes in-room checkout for owners and other fear-free protocols, like squeeze cheese snacks for pets. They offer ultrasound, therapeutic laser and dental x-ray in addition to basic medicine, spaying, neutering and common surgery.

Small Animal Community Practice

A few weeks before the fire, faculty and staff from CVM's Community Practice

Service finished moving into a sparkling 10,000 square foot building at the corner of Campus and Caldwell Roads. Their new program, the Small Animal Community Practice (SACP), teaches students about running a primary care practice. With separate canine and feline waiting rooms, five exam rooms, a large treatment space, radiography and dental facilities, the spacious SACP was designed to accommodate not only a general practice but eventually the primary care surgery program and Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program at Cornell.



After a fire shut down the Veterinary Care of Ithaca, the practice's clinicians and clients found a temporary home at Cornell's new Small Animal Community Practice.

When SACP section chief Dr. Brian Collins heard about the fire, he sent a note to Dr. Meg Thompson, associate dean of hospital operations and corporate relations. She emailed Biasillo that night to see if she could help, and Biasillo responded, "I have no idea if this is a possibility, but... a few exam rooms would allow us to remain partially functional.... I know it's a lot to ask."

Thompson slept on it. "The next morning, having thought about how much work it would be to make that happen, I went to the dean," says Thompson, "and he said, 'Yes.'" So she and David Howe, assistant dean of finance and administration, began working with colleagues in Cornell's administration: risk management, real estate, taxation, environmental health and

safety and University Counsel... The outcome? An emergency-occupancy short-term license arrangement. Meanwhile CVM allowed Biasillo to use classrooms and atrium space to keep her practice breathing.

Three weeks after the fire Biasillo's staff moved into the SACP, with two exam

rooms, dog and cat kennels, and separate phone lines dedicated to their practice. "It's kind of like two practices working side by side and sharing some things," says Biasillo. Three to six students rotate through every two weeks. They work with SACP veterinarians, and, if those veterinarians aren't busy, observe Biasillo's practice and reflect on the experience. Says Thompson, "In our case, there's always something you can learn from peers and how they do things, so I think there are all kinds of daily small learning opportunities."

Thompson values the relationships between CVM and local practitioners, knowing how their trust and referrals for secondary and tertiary care are central to the college. "Our town-gown relationship is every single day," says Thompson. "It's really the heart of our business. To help a local practice in an emergency like this was an unusual challenge for the college, but from the dean to the SACP clinicians and technicians, we all felt it was the right thing to do."

Biasillo shared with Thompson the knowledge she gained from managing the fire, dealing with damaged equipment and insurance companies, and working with architects who have redesigned the building to provide more functional reception and treatment space. "So I learned a lot in the process as well," says Thompson. "She's an amazingly capable individual... and I'm impressed with how much her team loves her."



CVM enabled veterinarians from the local practice to use classrooms and other spaces at the Small Animal Community Practice to see and treat their patients.

Veterinary Care of Ithaca

Biasillo began her career as a licensed veterinary technician, certified in canine rehabilitation. She ran a rehabilitation facility, working on pets with a variety of disorders. "That gave me the perspective of managing my own cases," says Biasillo. It also introduced her to running a business.

Biasillo wanted to do more, so she finished her undergraduate degree and enrolled in CVM just before turning 30. Simultaneously she got a job as a licensed technician at Veterinary Care of Ithaca, working there throughout school. "Being in vet school, having been in the field for so long, and being older gave me a unique perspective," says Biasillo. "There were questions that occurred to me that maybe wouldn't have if I had been just out of undergrad or had never really been in a practice before." After earning her DVM, Biasillo became an associate at Veterinary Care of Ithaca, then purchased the practice in 2015.

Silver lining

After the fire, patients and community members reached out to her, offering compassion and even help with cleaning. "For Cornell to offer us this..." says Biasillo, extending her gaze around the SACP, "I don't know what we would have done if we hadn't had the space to keep serving our clients and our patients. It takes something traumatic sometimes to make you realize the people we're surrounded by are very amazing. I am grateful for a lot that came out of it."

By Carrie Koplinka-Loehr



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Spotlight on the Green Team

The CVM Staff Council is excited to highlight the *Green Team* in the October 2018 edition of CVM eNews. The *Green Team* was formed to answer the college's call for green initiatives, and is comprised of a cross-section of college leadership, staff and students.

The CVM Staff Council had the opportunity to sit down with the *Green Team* and learn more about who they are and what they do!



Members of the Green Team. From left to right: Mariah Beck, Wayne Davenport, Dave Howe and Taylor Thompson.

Staff Council: How was the *Green Team* formed?

The Green Team: The Green Team was formed in part from the [Strategic Plan](#) and is backed by Dean Warnick. The college has always been focused on saving energy; all of the newer buildings around the Veterinary College are LEED Silver certified. It helps that Cornell is stricter than the state of New York, which already has stringent energy requirements in place!

Staff Council: What are some of the *Team's* accomplishments?

The Green Team: The most significant accomplishments would include the new Small Animal Community Practice building and the recently completed Class Expansion project, both of which are LEED certified. Other accomplishments include ongoing energy conservation efforts, which are comprised of studying buildings and identifying areas for energy savings (chilled water, steam, natural gas, domestic water and electric), composting in the cafeteria kitchen, replacing plastic straws with paper straws and offering reusable dishes and utensils for catered events. Students are also very involved in sustainability efforts and request event attendees bring their own reusable glassware, utensils and dishes.

Staff Council: How can the College community be more involved with sustainability efforts?

The Green Team: Be better stewards of our resources by conserving energy, using eco-friendly materials, recycling and composting whenever possible. Sometimes the smallest efforts have the greatest impact; imagine how much energy is saved by flipping switches to the off position and unplugging electronics at home. Now imagine the amount of energy saved when a large organization does this! The college was able to save over one million dollars on utilities last year, which was reinvested into other programs and projects.

Staff Council: Anything fun coming up?

The Green Team: Check out the Energy Dashboard, which showcases data on past, present and future sustainability information about the college. Keep an eye out for a fun energy savings competition: Which floor can save the most energy?! Additionally, the college is working on obtaining Green Lab/Green Office certification and is also investigating solar opportunities.

Thank you, Green Team, for being our CVM Staff Council's October Spotlight! Interested in learning more about the Green Team? Have ideas or suggestions? Want to join the Team? Feel welcome to email any of the members:

- Mariah Beck, mr294@cornell.edu
- Andy Brooks, ahb35@cornell.edu
- Wayne Davenport, wad2@cornell.edu
- Dave Howe, djh37@cornell.edu
- Len Johnson, len.johnson@cornell.edu
- Kevin Stillman, kstillman@afvusa.com
- Taylor Thompson, tl47@cornell.edu

Do you have ideas or suggestions for an upcoming *Spotlight*? Email us at cvmstaffcouncil@cornell.edu!



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Staff member Dionne Henderson's legacy of kindness and inclusion inspires new award

🐾 Monday, October 8, 2018 - 9:18am



The Henderson family with the three award winners.

A crowd of faculty, staff and friends celebrated the winners of the inaugural Dionne Henderson Staff Excellence Award in a heartfelt ceremony at the College of Veterinary Medicine September 24.

The award's namesake, Dionne Henderson, worked with the college for nearly a decade in administrative positions for both Human Resources and the Department of Clinical Sciences. She passed away unexpectedly in 2016 after complications from a cancer-related surgery. "Dionne was a unique person and an invaluable source of positive energy and enthusiasm, infinite kindness, warmth and knowledge," said Mary Beth Jordan, director of human resources at the college. "We are so grateful to have had her as part of the college community."

The award was presented to three winners during the celebration: Scott Butler, Cindy DeCloux and Sue Williams. Scott Butler is a research support specialist and the former chair of the CVM Staff Council. Jordan described him as

the “brainpower” behind the college’s ambassador program, which welcomes newly-hired staff and helps them succeed in their new roles.

Cindy DeCloux is an instructional technologist with Educational Support Services, whom Jordan praised for her efforts to lead and implement wellness initiatives like CSA shares and exercise programs, and help them evolve across the college. Wellness is a key part of the college’s [strategic plan for 2018-2022](#).

Sue Williams is front office manager for the Baker Institute for Animal Health. Jordan said of Williams, “She creates such a warm, welcoming environment for Baker staff, faculty, students and each visitor who walks through the front door – even the HR Director!”

Lorin Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. ’94, the Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine, congratulated the winners and presented them with their award letters. “They embody the same core values that Dionne Henderson had, and those of the college itself: excellence, collaboration, compassion, stewardship, innovation, respect and communication,” said Warnick.

“Creating an environment of inclusion and empathy for all is something Dionne did naturally,” said Carol Merkur, director of business operations with the Department of Clinical Sciences. “She was kind to everyone. Her contagious smile, her positive attitude and her innate ability to find something good in everything and everyone made her a unique individual.”

At the luncheon, the college community was joined by Henderson’s husband Bryan, her daughters Mariah and Brionna, her parents and family friends. Jordan welcomed them and shared her own memories of Henderson, recalling how, the evening before Henderson’s initial interview, she happened to be working in the office late. “I heard the pitter-patter of little feet coming down the hall – and there was Dionne with her young daughters in tow, making sure she knew exactly where to go in the morning.” Jordan teared up during her remarks. “It gives us great joy to honor Dionne’s memory here today,” she said.

The “In Strong Hands” Staff Award was created by Dean Donald Smith in 2001 to recognize the contributions of staff members at the college. In 2018, Warnick and Jordan charged the CVM Staff Council with reviving this award, which they renamed in Henderson’s honor and opened to the community for nominations this summer. The award will be given annually to non-academic staff who consistently demonstrate a high level of commitment to the college and its community members.


“They not only excel at their jobs, but also have a positive and influential impact on the college environment and foster cooperation and collaboration among colleagues,” said Warnick.

The CVM Staff Council is creating a new plaque for the award, which will be updated annually with the names of the winners and displayed prominently at the college. Both Warnick and Jordan thanked the council – which collected, reviewed and chose the award winners – for their work.

“Their efforts have resulted in something special, something that recognizes the importance of collaboration across the college and the value of doing one’s work with kindness and enthusiasm,” said Warnick.

By Melanie Greaver Cordova

Monday, October 8, 2018 - 9:25am

 Image



Dean Warnick and director of human resources Mary Beth Jordan welcome Henderson family members to the event.

Jordan presents H



The inaugural Dionne Henderson Staff Excellence Award was presented to three winners during the celebration: Scott Butler, Cindy DeCloux and Sue Williams. All photos by Rachel Philipson.



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CVM welcomes City University provost and veterinary college dean

🐾 Friday, October 5, 2018 - 4:45pm

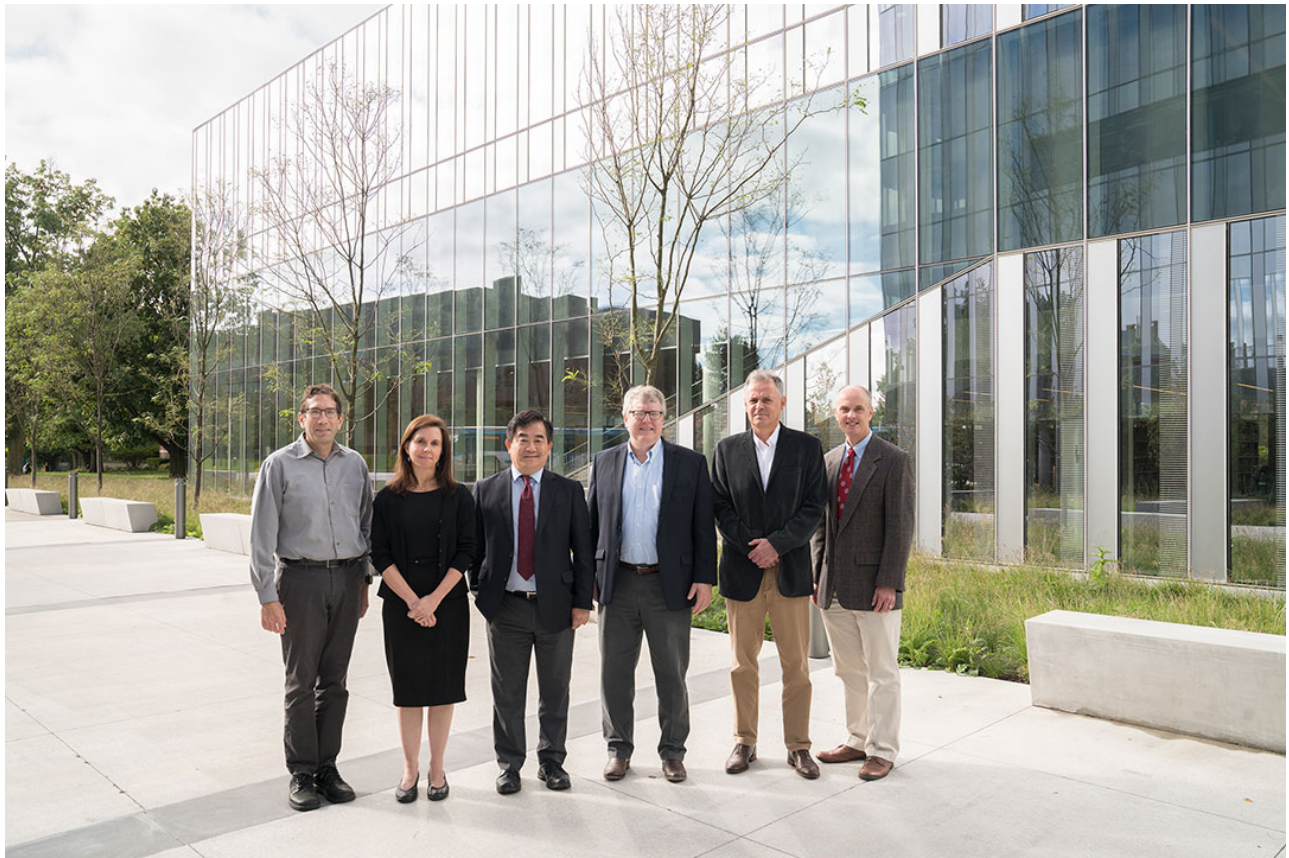


CityU Provost Alex Jen and Dean Michael Reichel visited the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, touring both research and educational facilities. Photos by the College of Veterinary Medicine.

This week, the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine welcomed Dr. Alex Jen, provost of City University of Hong Kong, and Dr. Michael Reichel, dean of Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences at City University, as part of a three-day visit that strengthened an already fruitful international partnership.

For the past decade, City University of Hong Kong and Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine have collaborated to establish a veterinary college in Hong Kong modeled on Cornell's problem-based curriculum. The two institutions now continue to expand upon this relationship. "A major focus of this visit was to showcase the capacities our institutions have for entrepreneurial activities and innovation and develop new opportunities for collaboration," says Dr. Alexander Travis, associate dean for international programs and public health.

Provost Jen and Dean Reichel began their trip with a stop at Cornell Tech in New York City, which provided the officials a look at the latest efforts Cornell has made toward developing a campus devoted to integrating technology with innovation and discovery.



This emphasis continued at the veterinary college, where they toured the Cornell University Hospital for Animals, the Animal Health Diagnostic Center, the Equine Park, CVM research facilities and the Teaching Dairy Barn. They also viewed state-of-the-art teaching facilities such as the simulation lab and the modular resource center.

Provost Jen and Dean Reichel met with college administration and faculty for broad-ranging discussions; innovation stayed central to the conversation, and involved faculty members who had created start-up companies based on Cornell research. The officials also discussed educational innovations and collaborations, including new curriculum development and the CityU-Cornell interdisciplinary Ph.D. program.

Travis emphasizes how the partnership between CityU and Cornell continues to benefit each institution, with Cornell providing key expertise in areas such as accreditation preparation, and City U providing expertise in fields such as warm water and marine aquatic production. “In an increasingly global world, we want our students to be truly prepared for international-scale problems and solutions,” says Travis, “and partnerships like this really expand that capability.”



By Lauren Cahoon Roberts



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October 2018: Hellos, goodbyes and HR update

Help us welcome new employees who joined the CVM community in September and bid a fond farewell to those who have retired.

New Hires

- **Peggy Jean Abramson**, Licensed Veterinary Technician - Dentistry, CUHA
- **Cory Jovan Brown**, Veterinary Technician, CUHA
- **Richard Patrick Hackett**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Clinical Sciences
- **Savanna Hotaling**, Licensed Veterinary Technician - Anesthesia, CUHA
- **Kelsey Jennings Roggensack**, Administrative Assistant, Research and Graduate Education
- **Jonathan Wood**, Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Clinical Sciences
- **Kenichiro Yagi**, Veterinary Education Simulation Laboratory Manager, Department of Clinical Sciences

Retirements

- **Debra Crane**, Administrative Assistant, Department of Molecular Medicine

Human Resources Update

Inclusive Excellence Podcast

Join Sherron Brown and Cornell Woodson for a monthly podcast series where they unpack various topics related to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. During each episode, they will provide action steps listeners can implement immediately and interview campus colleagues, in varied roles, about the ways in which they are creating cultures of belonging. You can listen to this podcast on your phone, at your desk, on your way to work, while you are cooking, even while you get ready for bed! [You can find the podcast episodes on Soundcloud.](#)

Do you have a topic you would like us to discuss on the podcast? Have someone we should highlight for their awesome work around campus? Feel free to send us an email at ie-academy@cornell.edu.

Announcing the New HR Services and Transitions Center (HRSTC)!

We've combined our teams from HR Onboarding, Benefit Services and Benefits Administration into one team to better and more efficiently serve Cornell faculty and staff. HRSTC counselors are trained to evaluate and address your needs, provide resources or solutions and assist with your life/career changes or transitions. Whether you have questions or need assistance with onboarding, benefits, leaves of absence, health issues, life events, planning for retirement or considering a job/career change, our team can help you with the benefits program, plan or resource that fits your needs. Come see us in person at East Hill Office Building (EHOB), Suite 110, 395 Pine Tree Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850, write to us at hrrservices@cornell.edu or call us at (607-255-3936; TTY 711).

Fall is a Busy Season for Your Benefits!

It's an important time to be thinking about your benefits for next year.

2018 Medical Care Flexible Spending Accounts

2018 accounts are for expenses for services received on or before Monday, 12/31/2018. If you have a balance as of 12/31/18, up to \$500 will be rolled into a 2019 account in the spring. Remaining money in your account over \$500 as of 12/31/2018 will be

forfeited. The claims deadline to submit claims for 2018 medical and dependent care expenses is 4/30/19.

2018 Dependent Care FSA

You may incur expenses from 1/1/2018 – 3/15/2019 to use up any remaining money in your 2018 account. The claims deadline to submit claims for 2018 medical and dependent care expenses is 4/30/19.

2019 Medical Care or Dependent Care FSA

If you want a Medical Care or Dependent Care FSA in 2019, you MUST re-enroll during Open Enrollment or Option Transfer!

Current Nonacademic Open Positions

The list below is dynamic and updated regularly. For additional information, please visit the [Cornell Careers Page](#).

- CUHA- Customer Service Representative (Part-time, weekend position)
- Ruffian Emergency Care Clinician - Located in Long Island
- Technician III - Stokol Lab
- Administrative Assistant IV – Clinical Sciences
- Research Support Specialist II - Soloway Lab
- Administrative Assistant, Cornell Program to Increase Faculty Diversity and Promote Research Excellence
- Client Service Representative - Cornell Ruffian Equine Specialists - Located in Long Island
- Licensed Veterinary Technician - Companion Animal Nursing Care
- Diagnostic Technologist I - Virology

Academic Open Positions

For a listing of open academic positions, please visit: <https://apps.hr.cornell.edu/recruiting/facultycareer.cfm>.

Should you have any questions related to the topics above, please contact the CVM HR office (607-253-4111 or tdp38@cornell.edu).

3-D Printed Implant Gives Patches the Dachshund a New Skull

By Christine Hauser

Sept. 25, 2018

Last year, Patches the dachshund earned the nickname Little Unicorn after she developed a large tumor that jutted out of her forehead.

Now, with the tumor gone, her Pennsylvania family calls her Titanium Top.

Those terms of endearment for the 9-year-old dog trace the narrative of how Patches became a case study in 3-D medical printing, a developing frontier in the field of reconstruction surgery in animals.

In March, American and Canadian veterinarians removed a tumor from Patches's head that was so large they had to carve out as much as 70 percent of her skull.

So they made Patches a new “skull” to cover the gap. The team members used 3-D printing to tailor a titanium plate to match what was left of the bone. Then they implanted the custom-made plate in Patches's head like a puzzle piece.



“The plate fit,” said Dr. Michelle Oblak, a veterinary surgical oncologist with the University of Guelph’s Ontario Veterinary College, who worked on Patches during the operation at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in Ithaca, N.Y. “It was quite jagged, so we had to follow the contour of the tumor.”

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Although the technology has existed since the 1980s, 3-D printers have been used in clinical applications only in recent years, mostly in veterinary teaching hospitals, according to a 2014 article in The Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

The technology is used to make 3-D models from two-dimensional CT scans before operations on animals like horses and dogs, enabling surgeons to plot their approach before the first incision is even made.

“We use it for surgical planning,” said Dr. Frank Verstraete, a surgeon at the University of California, Davis, whose team has done dozens of lower-jaw reconstructions. “It saves us time in the actual operating room.”

3-D printing has also been used to make implants that replace damaged mandibles and leg bones, such as one placed in a young German shepherd with a limb deformity at Cornell in 2009.

But it has not entered mainstream use in surgery in small veterinary clinics. The costs associated with 3-D printed custom implants in surgery for disfigured or injured animals can be prohibitive. But some animals will not survive without such an implant.

That was the case with Patches, according to the team that worked on her.

Patches started to develop a small bump on her head several years ago, said Danielle Dymeck, a corrections officer in Pennsylvania who has raised the dog since she was 2 months old. The bump did not seem to bother Patches when she chased cows or frolicked with Ms. Dymeck’s grandchildren.

But it grew quickly, alarming the family. Their local veterinarian referred them to Cornell University, where Dr. Galina Hayes, an assistant professor, took on a leading role in the treatment in February.

Patches’s tumor soon became so large it “ran out of room on the top of her head,” Ms. Dymeck said. It started to invade the eye cavity and press inward onto the brain, Dr. Oblak said.

“It was like a big orange on her forehead,” she said.

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The tumor was so widespread that the veterinarians could see they needed to carve out more than half of the skull bone. But then they had to decide how to cover the vast gap. A common plate made of titanium mesh would leave too much of Patches’s brain vulnerable to being compressed if it were hit by something.

“And that would be the end of Patches,” Dr. Hayes said.

While there are off-the-shelf implants, custom-made 3-D implants are particularly good for dogs, Dr. Oblak said, because their skulls vary in shape, from the flat snouts of boxers to the long ones of greyhounds.

So the veterinarians settled on a custom 3-D printed titanium implant.

On March 22, Patches went into the operating room. The team used a high-speed drill to cut around the tumor so it could be removed without damaging the brain.

Patches after surgery. Now, her family calls her Titanium Top. Dr. Michelle Oblak

“We popped the plate on,” Dr. Oblak said. “It was amazing. It fit like a glove.”

The operation took about four hours. Ms. Dymeck said that she paid the medical costs but that the implant was provided by Adeiss, a Canadian company. The procedure was highlighted in an article by The Canadian Press on Sunday.

Ms. Dymeck said Patches had an unrelated back injury and recently had seizures, but the family does not know if the seizures are related to the skull surgery. “She is doing really well,” she said.

Dr. Verstraete, who said the Cornell operation was an “interesting development,” said his team uses commercially available implants in work that has involved mostly jaw reconstruction.

“We have not had the need for custom printing our own plates,” he said. “I think it is fair to say that as we make advances we will use more of it, but it will always be a small niche application.”

Dr. Hayes said the team was preparing its work for peer review in The Canadian Veterinary Journal as a case study.

She described the Patches operation as “unusual” rather than groundbreaking, and said its contribution could be for cases “where there is literally nothing else you can do than euthanize the animal.”

“I think this is still a technology we are figuring out how to incorporate into veterinary medicine,” she said. But, she added, “it is always going to be a niche demand, mainly because the cases that need it are fairly rare, but also because of the financial cost.”



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15 Surprising Benefits of Adopting a Shelter Dog



Krista Carothers

Giving a dog a second chance can mean lots of advantages for you, the human, too.

That dog's really going to love you



Lena Ivanova/Shutterstock

Okay, okay, all kinds of dogs love their people. This is not exclusive to shelter dogs. But it's easy to project an extra-special feeling of gratitude and joy onto a grateful, happy dog who really needed *you*. "I think if you adopt a dog who's had a less than perfect life, they are the ones who appreciate it the most when you give them a wonderful life with the attention, food, love, and training they crave," says **Trish McMillan** (<https://loehranimalbehavior.com/>), a professional dog trainer who spent nearly eight years working with the ASPCA's New York City shelter and currently co-chairs the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants' Shelter Division. Don't miss these **50 secrets your pet won't tell you** (<https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/pet-secrets/>).

You're helping dogs



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When you adopt from a shelter, you're giving a great home to a dog who needs one, but you're also freeing up the facility and its people to care for more animals that need help. Plus, every dog that isn't purchased from a puppy mill means there's less incentive for irresponsible breeding, according to the **Humane Society**

(http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/puppy_mills/tips/finding_responsible_dog_breeder.html).

"Puppy mill dogs have higher rates of inherited and infectious diseases, and the mothers of these puppies often suffer from inhumane breeding practices and inadequate care," says **Elizabeth**

Berliner (<https://www2.vet.cornell.edu/research/faculty/elizabeth-berliner-dvm-dabvp>), DVM,

director of **Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program** ([https://www2.vet.cornell.edu/hospitals/maddies-](https://www2.vet.cornell.edu/hospitals/maddies-shelter-medicine-program)

[shelter-medicine-program](https://www2.vet.cornell.edu/hospitals/maddies-shelter-medicine-program)) at Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine. (The Humane Society website

[shelter medicine program](#) at Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine. (The Humane Society website has resources for finding good dog breeders, if that's the route you decide to take.)

You can skip the puppy stage



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Lots of dogs in shelters are adults that have already spent time living with other families—often successfully. **Nashville Humane Association (<http://nashvillehumane.org/>)** executive director Laura Chavarria says about half the animals surrendered to her shelter come from families that can't find pet-friendly housing, and others are brought in because of owners' medical conditions or life changes. "The majority of the dogs that come to our facility do so because of issues in their humans' lives," she says. "These issues are beyond the dog's control." Because they've matured past the puppy stage, adult dogs are less likely to chew shoes and dig up your garden. Ask yourself **these 15 questions before you adopt a shelter dog (<https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/questions-to-ask-before-adopting-shelter-dog/>)**.

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Many shelter dogs are already house-trained





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Lots of adult dogs have been through the potty-training process, so they already know not to do their business in the house. That said, any dog dealing with a new living situation might be prone to accidents while they get their bearings, but at least adult dogs are physically capable of going a few hours between potty breaks; the **Humane Society**

(http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/dogs/tips/housetraining_puppies.html) says that puppies

You can adopt a puppy



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If you really want to bring home a youngster so you can play a strong role in socializing and training it early on and get all those warm cuddles, you can still adopt. Chavarria says her shelter gets “oops” puppies from unspayed female dogs: “We see a lot of pregnant mother dogs or nursing moms that enter our adoption center.” Chavarria adds that the Nashville Humane Association has foster teams that take care of the puppies and mama dogs until they’re healthy and old enough to go out to adoptive families. Berliner confirms that puppies are often available for adoption. “It

sometimes takes a little time and patience to find the one for your family, but shelters are a great place to get a new puppy,” she says. These are the **15 things you need before bringing a new pup home (<https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/things-you-need-before-you-get-a-puppy/>)**.

You can adopt a senior dog

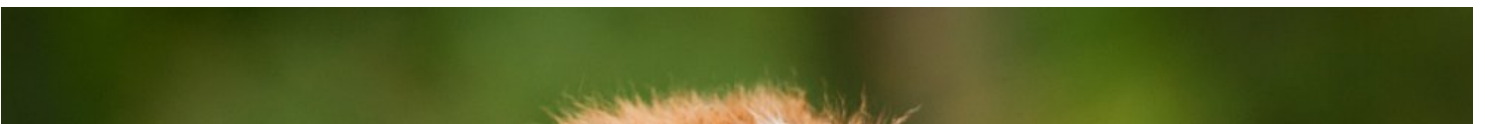




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On the other end of the spectrum, if you're looking for a companion who doesn't need intensive exercise sessions, you might want to consider adopting a senior citizen. Berliner says that she's taken home several older dogs herself. "Many shelters work hard to screen senior pets more thoroughly for conditions of aging, provide more extensive care to prepare them for adoption, and take pride in finding them homes," she says, adding that these dogs often "provide fantastic companionship for quieter households, single people, and families." (While you might be worried about high vet bills for seniors, it's important for all dog owners to know that animals can surprise you at any age with expensive medical conditions—youth is no guarantee of good health.) This is [what "dog years" really means. \(https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/what-dog-and-cat-years-really-mean/\)](https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/what-dog-and-cat-years-really-mean/)

You can even adopt a purebred dog



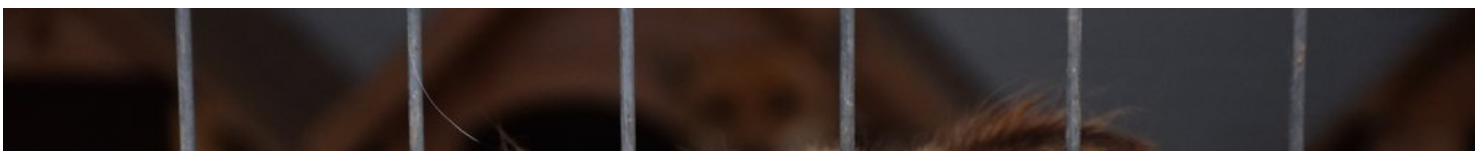


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If you have your heart set on bringing a specific breed of dog into your life, you can still start by checking local shelters. “In my ten years of experience, I’ve seen full-blooded bulldogs, Chihuahuas, and Labradoodles available for adoption!” Chavarria says. If you don’t find what you’re looking for, check out breed-specific rescue operations—**the American Kennel Club ([https://www.akc.org/akc-](https://www.akc.org/akc-rescue-network/)**

rescue-network/)’s website has links and contacts for organizations that re-home dogs from

Mixed breeds are great too

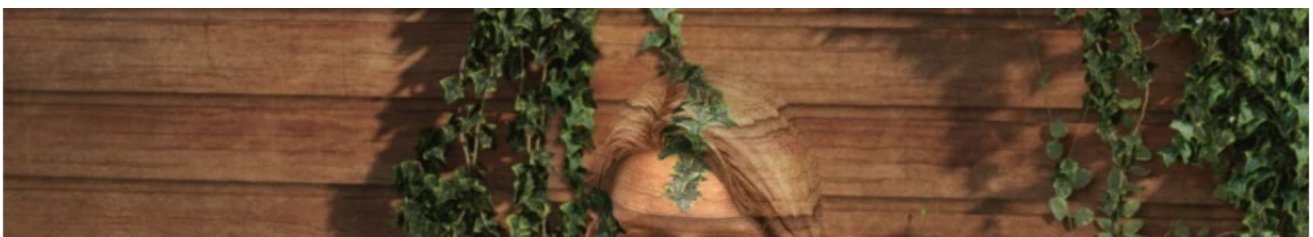




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Although responsible breeders have had success in recent decades with reducing and eliminating some **breed-specific genetic problems** (<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/canine-corner/201806/are-mixed-breed-dogs-really-healthier-purebreds>) from their dogs (including one disorder that led to blindness in border collies and another that caused anemic disease in beagles), purebreds are still slightly more likely to have genetic disorders than mixed breeds, according to a

2018 study published in **PLOS Genetics** (<https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/article?id=10.1371/journal.pgen.1007361>). "In general, mixed-breed shelter dogs tend to have fewer





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— Excessive Daytime Sleepiness related to sleep apnea is more than just being exhausted during the day. It's a different kind of tired.

You might have the opportunity to foster



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Many shelters need volunteers to host dogs temporarily, which can both make space in the facility and also give those dogs a chance to show how they'll behave in a home environment. "It can also provide an 'out-of-the-shelter' option for a dog that is not doing well in a shelter facility, or that has special behavioral or medical needs," Berliner says, adding that many volunteers come to love fostering dogs. In the process, you might just find the dog you want to adopt permanently. Even if you're not interested in fostering, many shelters will let you spend significant amounts of time with a dog you're interested in. "Folks can come and 'check out' a dog for four hours during the day and have a Doggie Date," Chavarria says about the Nashville Humane Association. Check out these [50 things that make your pet tick \(https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/things-that-make-your-pet-tick/\)](https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/things-that-make-your-pet-tick/).

Shelter workers can tell you a lot about the dogs



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Don't rely solely on your own instincts when you're meeting dogs—staffers and volunteers at shelters and rescue organizations will have lots of information to share with you about their personalities, health, and behavior quirks. “Many shelters work hard to ask questions about adopter expectations and lifestyles and endeavor to match adopters with dogs that would seem to do well in their homes,” Berliner says. They'll also have information about the dogs' past situations and if they have lived in homes before (with previous owners or in foster care). Staffers might also have some idea about how they get along with kids and cats, and about whether they get anxious when left alone or bark when they're stressed. Don't hesitate to ask lots of questions. These **before-and-after dog adoption photos will melt your heart (<https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/dog-adoption-photos/>)**.

Shelter dogs are cheaper than dogs from reputable breeders





Africa Studio/Shutterstock

Adoption fees at shelters are typically less than \$500 (often much less). Many organizations charge their higher fees for puppies and purebred dogs that are in high demand and lower ones for senior dogs or those with medical or behavior challenges. Plus, “many shelters have **adoption specials** (<https://www.aspcapro.org/resource/saving-lives-research-data/huge-fir-event-reveals-success-conversational-fee-waived>) or fee-waived adoptions when they get too full,” says McMillan. “I adopted both of my cats during specials like these, and they’re amazing pets.” Some shelters and rescue groups are registered non-profits, which means your “donation” to adopt your pet may even be tax deductible. Obviously, you’re avoiding purchasing puppy-mill dogs from pet stores, flea markets, and classified ads, so the real price comparison is to reputable breeders, whose puppies often cost thousands of dollars.

Most shelter dogs have already been “fixed”





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Adoption fees are even more of a bargain when you consider that most shelter dogs are spayed or neutered before they come home with you. This procedure can cost a couple hundred dollars if you pay for it yourself, but it's vital to keeping pet populations under control, and it's required by law in some states. "In shelters that don't have the resources to do this, it's advised that they ensure new owners do spay and neuter by providing vouchers or collecting deposits that incentivize this process," Berliner says. Here are **20 things to consider before you adopt a rescue dog** (<https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/adopting-a-rescue-dog/>).

Shelter dogs have had their shots





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Animal shelters vaccinate the dogs that come in so they're protected from diseases that can circulate around the facility. You'll need to keep up with their shots once you bring them home (most dogs need boosters every year), but a dog adopted from a shelter should be ready to mingle with other pups in your neighborhood right away. "There are standards of care set out by the American Veterinary Medical Association and state laws that require what vaccinations shelter animals should receive—rabies vaccinations, especially," Chavarria says.

Lots of shelters even microchip dogs





Will Hughes/Shutterstock

A microchip is a tiny electronic chip enclosed in a glass cylinder about the size of a grain of rice, according to the **American Veterinary Medical Association** (<https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/FAQs/Pages/Microchipping-of-animals-FAQ.aspx>), that's implanted under the skin of your pet. Then, if he or she ever wanders off and is found by a stranger, a veterinarian or shelter staffer can run a scanner over the chip and get access to your contact information to let you know where Fido ended up. "Most of the larger, progressive shelters provide a microchip at the time of adoption, but there are still shelters out there that do not have the resources to include that in the adoption packet," Chavarria says. (If your shelter doesn't implant a microchip in dogs, consider having your vet do it—the procedure is easy and inexpensive.) Be sure to avoid these **53 mistakes even smart dog owners make**. (<https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/mistakes-every-dog-owner-makes/>)

Even if you're not ready to adopt a dog, you can spend time

with them by volunteering at a shelter



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If you love dogs and want to be around them and help them, but you're not quite ready to take the plunge and adopt your own, consider volunteering to walk dogs or take on other chores at a local facility. "Shelters always need volunteers," McMillan says. "Fun, encouraging adoption profiles need to be written, pictures and videos need to be taken, enrichment items need to be packed with food

and treats, and—boy oh boy—there's always laundry, cleaning, and bathing to be done." Read on for the **14 things animals in shelters wish you knew (<https://www.rd.com/advice/pets/shelter-animals-wish-you-knew/>)**.

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